

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the subject application. Claims 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, and 28 have been withdrawn. Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 1, 20, 22, 24, and 26 have been amended.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application based on above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claim 26 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,862,583 to Mazzagatte ("Mazzagatte" or the "Mazzagatte Reference"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the grounds for rejection for the reasons provided below.

Claim 26 has been amend to recite "an identification data receiving section for receiving the identification data transmitted automatically from a portable data storage device when the portable data storage means approaches said electronic device, the identification data receiving section having a function to store the identification data received from said data preparation device." The Mazzagatte reference does not teach, mention or suggest such a feature.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully maintains that, claim 26 is not anticipated by the Mazzagatte reference. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that, claim 26 satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 102(b), and is allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24 as unpatentable over Mazzagatte in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,650,430 to Francis ("Francis" or the "Francis Reference"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the grounds for rejection for the reasons provided below.

According to the Mazzagatte reference, unique identification information identifies the person who is the intended recipient. See, e.g., Mazzagatte, col. 8, lines 19-29. Indeed, according to Mazzagatte, when a plurality of print jobs for a single recipient are sent to one device, the user must select which of the plurality of print jobs the device should process. This adds to the burden of a user. See, e.g., Id., page 4, lines 3-13.

Mazzagatte, further, provides that the identification information is, for example, the intended recipient's first name, last name, country, locality, organization, or other information that is unique to him.

Claim 1, on the other hand, recites that the identification corresponds to the operation data. For example, page 6 of the Specification discloses that, in storing identification data that are prepared along with and that correspond to operation data, the present invention is able to provide more accurate control of the electronic device as compared to a conventional device that stores fixed identification data such as personal information. Such control includes, for example, the outputting of a specific document out of a plurality of documents, even when the plurality of documents are sent to the same printer by the same user. See, e.g., Id., page 46, line 8 to page 47, line 8.

Moreover, claims 1, 22, and 24 recite an electronic device control system that includes a data preparation means; an electronic device; and portable data storage means. The data preparation means prepares operation data and identification data that correspond to the operation data. The portable data storage means receives the identification data prepared by the data preparation means, which it automatically transmits to the electronic device when the portable data storage device is in the proximity

of the electronic device, so that the electronic device carries out the processing based on the operation data that correspond to the identification data.

Neither Mazzagate nor Francis, individually or in combination, teach, mention or suggest these features that are now recited in independent claims 1, 22, and 24.

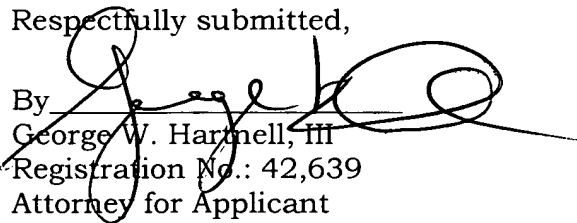
Therefore, the Applicant respectfully maintains that, the claims are not made obvious by the Mazzagate reference in view of Francis. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that, the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 103(a), and are allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

If for any reason a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 04-1105 under Order No. 56,304 (70904).

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